

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 126504
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-03 H-01
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-----023410 190805Z /13

R 181851Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UN, GQ

SUBJECT: VISITING MISSION TO GUAM

REF: STATE 113855

1. THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM HAS AGREED TO INVITE A VISITING MISSION TO GUAM TO OBSERVE THE VOTING ON THE GUAM CONSTITUTION, WHICH WILL OCCUR ON NOVEMBER 7, 1978. HE IMPOSES THE CONDITION, HOWEVER, THAT THE MISSION NOT ARRIVE IN THE TERRITORY BEFORE NOVEMBER 6. THIS WOULD ENABLE THE VISITING MISSION TO OBSERVE THE LAST DAY OF THE CAMPAIGN AND THE ELECTION ITSELF. THE GOVERNOR STATES THAT THE MISSION WOULD BE WELCOME IN GUAM FOR AS LONG AS IT DESIRES AFTER THE ELECTION.

2. THE TERMS OF THE INVITATION ARE CLEARLY NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, IN THAT IT WILL BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE MISSION TO OBSERVE THE PERIOD PRECEDING THE VOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION. WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WILL BE USEFUL TO INVITE A VISITING MISSION, EVEN WITH THIS RESTRICTION. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE INVITING THE COMMITTEE TO "OBSERVE CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY" RATHER THAN TO "OBSERVE THE REFERENDUM." WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SECTION OF THE VISITING MISSION REPORT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY
MAKE SOME REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT THE MISSION WAS
NABLE TO OBSERVE THE PERIOD PRECEDING THE VOTE, BUT
WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE REPORT WOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT
THE VOTING WAS CONDUCTED IN AN ATMOSPHERE FREE OF
INTIMIDATION.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE USUN'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER AN
INVITATION ALONG THE LINES ENVISAGED WOULD BE WELL
RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE, AND WHETHER IT WOULD BE
USEFUL TO EXTEND SUCH AN INVITATION. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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